



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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## **GEORGE “PETE” NANOS NAMED DIRECTOR OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LAB**

The University of California Board of Regents today (July 17) named Retired Vice Admiral George P. “Pete” Nanos, currently interim director, as permanent director of the UC-managed Los Alamos National Laboratory. Nanos has served as interim director of the lab in New Mexico since January 6, 2003.

Acting on the recommendation of UC President Richard C. Atkinson, the Regents appointed Nanos the seventh director of the Los Alamos laboratory during a regularly scheduled Regents’ meeting.

“As he has throughout his career, Pete Nanos has exercised bold and innovative leadership as interim director of Los Alamos National Laboratory for the past six months,” Atkinson said. “This vote by the Regents to make him permanent director affirms our collective belief that Pete possesses the unique set of skills to sustain over time the business practice reforms we have put into place while also preserving the Laboratory’s place as a premier institution of national security science.”

Since being appointed interim director at LANL, Nanos is credited with creating a new atmosphere of openness in communications, implementing strong sound business practices and ensuring that the laboratory remains focused on the national security mission. In his role as interim director, Nanos set five top performance priorities for the laboratory including elevated attention to safety, security and compliance matters; ensuring a ongoing focus on the national security mission; maintaining outstanding science; continuing and sustaining improvements to the business operations and management practices; and building community partnerships.

Nanos, the former commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command and of the Navy's strategic nuclear program, served as principal deputy associate director for Los Alamos' Threat Reduction Directorate before being named interim laboratory director in January. Nanos' naval career began with graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1967. His sea duty included service aboard destroyers and a tour as engineer officer on the aircraft carrier America (CV-66).

While serving as the manager for technical development for the Navy's High-Energy Laser Program, he became an engineering duty officer specializing in the acquisition of ordnance and combat systems. He later became deputy director of warfare systems engineering in the Space

and Naval Warfare Systems Command. He guided completion of the submarine inertial navigation system to support deployment of the Trident II weapons system.

Nanos spent almost 10 years in the Navy's strategic weapons program including service as director, Strategic Systems Programs, responsible for development, acquisition and support of all U.S. and U.K. submarine launched ballistic missiles and re-entry systems. In 1998 he became Commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command, the Navy's largest major acquisition organization responsible for design, development, repair and support of all Navy ships and shipboard weapons systems. Prior to joining LANL in 2002, Nanos had oversight of the Navy's four public nuclear repair shipyards with 22,000 employees and seven Navy laboratory divisions with approximately 20,000 employees.

Nanos earned a doctorate in physics from Princeton University in 1974.

Nanos will be paid a salary of \$334,700, which was approved by the UC Board of Regents and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Los Alamos National Laboratory is operated by the University of California for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) of the U.S. Department of Energy and works in partnership with NNSA's Sandia and Lawrence Livermore national laboratories to support NNSA in its mission.

Los Alamos enhances global security by ensuring safety and confidence in the U.S. nuclear stockpile, developing technologies to reduce threats from weapons of mass destruction and improving the environmental and nuclear materials legacy of the cold war. Los Alamos' capabilities assist the nation in addressing energy, environment, infrastructure and biological security problems.

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**NOTE:** A photo of Director Nanos is available at  
<http://www.lanl.gov/worldview/news/photos/people.shtml>.